



How Do the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Complete God's Plan of Salvation?

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As new believers, it's crucial to understand two pivotal events in the life of Jesus Christ: His resurrection from the dead and His ascension to Heaven. These events are not only central to Christian faith but also intimately linked to God's broader plan of salvation.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a cornerstone of Christian faith. It occurs three days after His crucifixion, as narrated in the New Testament of the Bible. This miraculous event is a testament to God's power and a validation of Jesus' divinity. It is recorded in all four Gospels ([Matthew 28:1-10](#), [Mark 16:1-8](#), [Luke 24:1-12](#), and [John 20:1-18](#)).

The resurrection signifies victory over sin and death, assuring believers of their own resurrection and eternal life. As stated in [Romans 6:4](#), "*We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*"

The Ascension of Jesus Christ

The Ascension, described in [Acts 1:9-11](#), occurs forty days after His resurrection. Jesus, in the presence of His disciples, is taken up into Heaven. This event marks the end of Jesus' earthly ministry and the beginning of His heavenly ministry.

As our High Priest, Jesus intercedes for us at the right hand of God ([Hebrews 4:14-16](#)). As our Advocate, He pleads our case before God, allowing us access to the Father through Him ([1 John 2:1](#)). This role of Jesus as the High Priest and Advocate is crucial in understanding how His ascension relates to God's broader plan of salvation.

The High Priest in the Old Testament was responsible for offering sacrifices and making atonement for the sins of the people. Jesus, as the ultimate High Priest, offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice, once and for all, to atone for our sins ([Hebrews 9:11-14](#)). His ascension to the right hand of God the Father allowed Him to continue His priestly ministry, interceding on our behalf and granting us access to the Father.

Additionally, as our Advocate, Jesus stands before God, pleading our case and defending us against the accusations of the enemy ([1 John 2:1-2](#)). This is a crucial aspect of God's plan of salvation, as it ensures that we have a mediator and a champion who represents us before the throne of God.

Furthermore, after His ascension, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to remain with His followers until He returns to rapture the Church ([John 14:16-17](#), [Acts 1:8](#)). This gift of the Holy Spirit empowers believers, equipping them with spiritual gifts and guiding them in their Christian journey. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is a significant part of God's broader plan of salvation, as it provides believers with the necessary strength, wisdom, and discernment to live out their faith and fulfill their calling.

The Broader Plan of Salvation

The resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit are all intrinsic parts of God's broader plan of salvation. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins. Through His resurrection, Jesus conquered death and sin, offering us the gift of eternal life. His ascension into heaven and His ministry as our High Priest and Advocate facilitate our relationship with God, bringing us closer to our salvation.

In this divine plan, we witness the unfathomable depths of God's love for us. Understanding these truths deepens our faith, equips us for our Christian journey, and brings us closer to the heart of God's grand story of redemption.

The roles of Jesus as the High Priest and Advocate, as well as the gift of the Holy Spirit, are pivotal in this broader plan of salvation. Through His sacrifice, intercession, representation before the Father, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we are granted forgiveness, access to God, and the assurance of eternal life. This holistic understanding of the resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit paints a more complete picture of how these events are intricately woven into God's overarching plan to redeem and restore humanity.

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